

digital representation. Thus, the term "transient" is used herein to describe image data values that are unstable (e.g., outliers), or image data that has been stable for only a relatively short time scale (e.g., less than five sequential image frames). For example, in the exemplary embodiment provided below, W component 140A operates in a manner similar to a conventional 2-frame motion estimator in that its parameters are calculated using only a current image frame and the image frame immediately preceding the current image frame. In alternative embodiments, W component 140A may be modified to compare data from a small number (e.g., two or three) of frames preceding the current frame. Alternatively, as described in the exemplary embodiment provided below, L component 140B is utilized to store outlier data, and is therefore updated using data from only one image frame (i.e., the current frame).

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